



## 2009 TMGA Officers

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Aransas County



*Secretary*  
**Brenda Cunningham**  
Dallas County



*Treasurer*  
**Homer Babbitt**  
Parker County



Please submit information to include on the [TMGA Website](#) or in the TMGA monthly newsletter to the following Editors. Deadline for the newsletter is the 28th of each month.

*Web Editor—TMGA*  
**Dove Johnson**  
[dove1johnson@gmail.com](mailto:dove1johnson@gmail.com)  
Somervell County



*Newsletter Editor*  
**Donna Hagar**  
[dmthagar@gmail.com](mailto:dmthagar@gmail.com)  
Somervell County



## *From Our President*

Isn't this fall weather wonderful? The blessing of recent rains has been generous and for us in Central Texas a lush green has returned. The lower temperatures are now drawing us to the great outdoors. The joy is back in the garden.

This awaiting joy makes it such a challenge to remain inside even to watch a football game much less to write an article for our newsletter. Discipline! Discipline! Discipline! But wait . . . . I just realized that you too would rather be outside, so let's keep this short and get back to the garden.

Now is the time to mark your calendar for our last Directors' Meeting this year. This next meeting will have a full agenda. We will be electing our 2010 Officers as well. The meeting will be in College Station on Saturday December 5th at 11:00 A. M. So make plans now to attend.

So much for discipline! Let's get back to our shared passion. The garden is waiting.

Doug

**\*\*\*It's Awards Time\*\*\* see p. 3**

**New Specialist Training - see p. 5**

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# *EarthKind® News for October*

## *Two New Earth-Kind® Designees*

### **Reve d'Or**



**Photo of Reve d'Or** courtesy of Paul Barden

Reve d'Or translates from the French as “dream of gold” or “golden dream”. It’s blossoms have been described as buff yellow with shades of apricot, golden-hued, or deep yellow with shades of copper. Foliage starts out red and matures to a rich, glossy green. Blooms appear in flushes throughout the growing season with particularly lovely fall blooms. Double blossoms are medium large with 23 to 30 frilly petals. They have a strong tea fragrance.

This vigorous growing climber has canes that grow to 15 feet. Because the canes are thin and flexible when young, they are easy to handle and can nicely be used to cover structures such as arches and pergolas. Reve d'Or is nearly thornless making it especially useful on structures where there is frequent human traffic. It strongly resents any pruning beyond shortening its vigorous summer shoots.

Bred in France by Jean-Claude Ducher in 1869 and classified as a Noisette or Tea-Noisette, Reve d'Or is a seedling of the Noisette, Madame Schultz.

### **Cecile Brunner**

Cecile Brunner, also known as Mme. Cécile Brünner and The Sweet-heart Rose, is a bush rose that grows to 3 - 5 feet. It blooms profusely in the spring and then continues to bloom until frost. Blossoms are a soft silvery pink and look like a hybrid tea in miniature. They appear in clusters and have a sweet fragrance. The plant is upright and bushy with dark green, slightly shiny leaves. Foliage is soft with sparse thorns. It requires little pruning.

Classified as a Polyantha, Cecile Brunner was developed in France by Joseph Pernet-Ducher and introduced in 1881. It is a cross of Mignonette and a Tea Rose named Madame de Tartas.

This is one of the best loved and easiest to grow of roses.



**Photo courtesy of Chamblee's Rose** Nursery

## *Introducing The Slate of Officers for 2010*

Below is the slate of Officers for 2010 as presented by the Nominating Committee at the August 1st. Directors meeting. At the December Directors meeting we will be voting on the officers for 2010. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at that time.

You may review the resumes for these nominees on the TMGA Website or [click here](#).

**President**  
Lonnie Mathew  
Aransas/San Pat. MG



**1st Vice President**  
Homer Babbitt  
Parker Co. MG



**2nd Vice President**  
Doris Rogers  
Amarillo Area MG



**Treasurer**  
Chris Oefinger  
Cypress Basin MG



**Secretary**  
Diane Bush  
Angelina Co. MG



## TMGA News and Events



### Texas Master Gardener Association 2009 Awards Program

Many of you are beginning your planning for the 2009 Awards program. Congratulations on your advanced planning! The awards committee is busy updating the handbook and submission forms for 2009. In the meantime, you can use the 2008 forms and handbook as a guide. We anticipate very little changes in the 2009 forms or handbook.

You will find the 2008 Handbook and Forms on the Awards web site. You will also find a link to all the 2008 winning awards that were submitted electronically. Reviewing these winning awards may help in your preparation this year. <http://www.tmgaawards.com/>

We hope to have 2009 forms and handbook available in the near future on the Awards web site. An article will appear in this newsletter when they are ready. If you have any questions contact the awards committee via email at [tmga.awards@gmail.com](mailto:tmga.awards@gmail.com).

## Annual Conference Information



### TEXAS MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION 2010 CONVENTION

The **Dallas County Master Gardener Association** invites

everyone to attend the 2010 TMGA State Convention being held at the Omni Mandalay Hotel in the Las Colinas area of Irving, Texas, on April 8-10, 2010. The complete address of the hotel is 221 East Las Colinas Blvd, Irving, TX 75039. The Irving location makes convention going convenient for those arriving via DFW Airport or Love Field, as it is just off the major thoroughfare Highway 121, close to DFW. Use the Omni web site for more details about the hotel and meeting facilities at <http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/DallasMandalay/MeetingFacilities/TexasMasterGardenerConference>. Information about the conference, speakers, tours and events as well as reservations can be handled through the conference web site at [www.2010TMGAconference.org](http://www.2010TMGAconference.org). More information about the conference is being added to the web site on a regular basis and the organizing committee invites anyone interested to look at the site frequently to be kept up to date.

The Irving location was picked because it is more or less mid distance between Dallas and Fort Worth, making the attractions of the whole Metroplex of easy access. Both Dallas and Fort Worth have many famous museums, concert venues, zoos, botanical gardens, demonstration gardens and arbore-

tums as well as historic districts to offer visitors a wide variety of worthwhile distractions before and after the convention.

The Dallas County Master Gardeners have been making visits to different meetings, conventions and conferences to publicize the 2010 TMGA Convention because the TMGA Convention organizing committee feels that a large attendance is essential to the success of the 2010 Convention. Most recently was the participation at the 2009 TNLA Expo (Landscape Association) at the Dallas Convention Center. This provided the organizing Committee the opportunity to make more than 300 contacts. It is possible that from these 300+ contacts not only will more Exhibitors but also some Underwriters materialize for the 2010 Convention.

The Chairwoman of the DCMGA Organizing Committee, Nita Rausch, is now preparing to visit the 6 counties surrounding Dallas County to speak to their monthly Master Gardener Association meetings about the 2010 TMGA Convention. She is calling these visits "2010 on the Road" and in the next press release we will have the counties and dates of the visits for publication. There will also be a publicity booth at the Rose Dango at Farmers Branch during that celebration in October.

If you have questions please consult the web site at [www.2010TMGAconference.org](http://www.2010TMGAconference.org) or e-mail to [TMGA2010@hotmail.com](mailto:TMGA2010@hotmail.com). The Committee will make every effort to answer your questions and assist your participation in this upcoming 2010 TMGA Convention.

## Annual Conference Information Continued



### 2011 Texas Master Gardener State Conference April 27-29, 2011, Somervell County Expo Center in Glen Rose, Tx, Co-hosted by Somervell County and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners

Because the Somervell County Master Gardeners and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners of Hood County are co hosting the 2011 TMGA Conference, each group will focus on sharing information about their respective county. This month it's about Somervell County of which Glen Rose is the county seat. As with many Texas counties, Somervell abounds with a rich history and one event that occurred in 1908, set the wheels in motion for Somervell County to receive attention for many years and become known as the land of the dinosaur. A Glen Rose youngster, exploring along Wheeler Branch noticed some BIG animal footprints that were identified as dinosaur prints. Years later, another local fellow discovered even larger tracks in the Paluxy River and it was determined that these tracks were made by the plant munching Pleurocoelus. Chunks of the river rock containing tracks were sent to the New York American Museum of Natural History and Texas universities and more dinosaur tracks were unearthed by a funded WPA project during the 1930's.

In 1997 the Pleurocoelus was named the Texas State Dinosaur. However, 10 years later a young postgraduate student by the name of Peter Rose was studying a collection of fossils from a place called Jones Ranch, in Hood County. Rose determined that the Jones fossils were not Pleurocoelus at all, and in fact did not match any known genus and species. In 2007 he named his new find Paluxysaurus jonesi, after the river and the rancher, W.W. Jones. After the dust had settled over the confirmation of the new discovery, the Texas Legislature set out to "right a wrong" and passed a resolution in 2009 designating Paluxysaurus jonesi as the official Lone Star State Dinosaur.



Some of the fossilized tracks in the Paluxy River at Dinosaur Valley State Park are Paluxysaurus jonesi. This beautiful park has great camping facilities, miles of hiking trails, abundant wildlife and a camp store. You can also see dinosaur tracks on the Court House Square at the bandstand and at the Somervell County Museum.

As for the conference, our committees are meeting and the creative juices are flowing. It's our plan that the 2011 Conference will be a special one for all of you.

Next month it's back to Granbury in Hood County. *Submitted by Sandi Stringer, SCMGA.*

Visit [www.2011tmgaconference.org](http://www.2011tmgaconference.org) for more information



### October 11-14, 2011 2011 International Master Gardener Conference

West Virginia University Extension Service and the West Virginia Master Gardener Association invite you to join us at the 2011 International Master Gardener Conference, October 11 -14 in Charleston, West Virginia. Come and join us in sharing gardening information, history and Appalachian culture. The Interna-

tional Master Gardener Conference will be held at the Charleston Convention Center October 11-14, 2011 when fall brings cool nights and colorful mountain scenery. The event will provide opportunities to learn gardening techniques that will help increase biodiversity, control exotic weeds, make the most of native plants in the landscape and improve gardening methods. Pre and post tours will help you discover the splendor of the Appalachian Mountains and the beauty and history of West Virginia.

[Information](#)

## Specialist Training



### National EarthKind® Specialist Training October 7-9, 2009

Coordinator/Sponsor:  
Steve Chaney  
Texas AgriLife Extension,  
Fort Worth, Texas

The National EarthKind® Specialist program is designed to provide advance training and resources to Master Gardeners and Rosarians to certify them to be part of a state and national corps of EarthKind® experts and educators.

For more information contact Steve Chaney, Extension Horticulturist, 817-884-1946 or [sachaney@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:sachaney@ag.tamu.edu)  
[Information/Registration](#)



### October 14-16, 2009 Master Gardener Specialist – Irrigation Efficiency Training - Midland, TX

**Host:** Ector/Midland Counties

**Training Location:** CAF – Commemorative Air Power Museum  
9600 Wright Dr, Midland, TX (432)563-1000



The Master Gardener Specialist – Irrigation Efficiency training will cover hands-on practices for determining irrigation efficiency, setting controllers, soak and cycle method, minor irrigation repairs, system trouble shooting, catch-can test, converting spray head irrigation to new water conserving heads, converting spray irrigation to drip irrigation and other water conservation practices.

Master Gardener Irrigation Efficiency Specialists will volunteer 12 hours above their current volunteer obligation, train Master Gardeners in their county, present the information to at least 3 other groups and do a catch can demonstration for Master Gardeners, a garden club, neighborhood association or civic organization.

Only 15 participant spots are available for this training. Registration is first come/first served basis.

*Submit your registration forms as soon as possible.*

**Payment and forms must be in our office by October 1, 2009. No refunds will be given October 12.**

[More Information and Registration Form](#)



### Master Gardener Specialist - Greenhouse Management: October 28-30 Ft. Worth, TX

In an effort to provide training, the Master Gardener Specialist - Greenhouse Management training was created as a hands-on, intensive multi-day training that will empower Master Gardeners with knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas AgriLife Extension efforts in educational programs. The class is divided into separate tracks, commercial and hobby greenhouse for more specialized situations. Master Gardener Specialist - Greenhouse Management October 28-30, 2009 Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Tarrant County, Fort Worth, Texas

Master Gardeners who fulfill specified training and volunteer requirements will be recognized as a Master Gardener Specialist in the specific field of Greenhouse Management. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within his/her local county programs.

Registration fee: \$150.00 (Includes dinner (2), lunch (1), snacks, drinks, Greenhouse Management equipment, Power Point CD and resource materials distributed during course).

- Transportation and lodging is on your own.
- Course is limited to the first 40 applications to send check and application.
- A maximum of 2 Master Gardeners from each county.

[Registration, Information and Course Agenda](#)  
[Lodging](#)

## Specialist Training Continued

### Master Gardener Specialist Plant Propagation

November 6-7, 2009

#### Montgomery County Extension Center Conroe, Texas

In an effort to provide advanced training, the Master Gardener Specialist - Plant Propagation training was created as a hands-on, intensive multi-day training that will empower Master Gardeners with knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas AgriLife Extension Service efforts in educational programs. Training and Service Requirements:

- Attend the Master Gardener Specialist - Plant Propagation training
- Serve as a local Master Gardener Specialist - Plant Propagation resource
- Assist with Plant Propagation training for Master Gardeners and trainees
- Conduct community/youth Plant Propagation

education programs

- Increase clientele knowledge about plant propagation through: presentations, workshops and mass media efforts (i.e. radio, newspaper, television, newsletters)

Registration fee: \$125.00 \$ (Includes dinner(1), lunch(1), snacks, drinks, propagation equipment, Power Point CD and resource materials distributed during the course). Spouse would like to attend Friday night dinner \$20.00 \$ Plant Propagation Specialist Denim Shirt for an additional \$25.00

- Transportation and lodging is on your own.
- Course is limited to the first 35 applicants to send check and application.
- A maximum of 2 Master Gardeners from each county.

For more information

Contact: Cody Ferguson  
[ceferguson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ceferguson@ag.tamu.edu)

936.539.7824

[Information and Registration](#)



### Master Gardener Rainwater Specialist Training November 13-14, 2009

#### Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Tom Green County and the Concho Valley Master Gardeners

This hands-on training will include the installation of a collection system and drip irrigation at an Extension/Master Gardener demonstration site.

Only 30 participant spots are available for this training, so please submit your registration forms as soon as possible. Registration is on a first come/first serve basis. Payment and forms must be in our office by October 30, 2009. Contact Allison Watkins, 325-659-6528, to answer any questions or provide further information.

We are excited to be able to host such a great learning opportunity and look forward to seeing you here in San Angelo. The training will take place at the 4-H Center in San Angelo, TX.

[Information](#)

[Agenda](#)

[Registration](#)

### Officers and Directors

We are quickly gaining many email addresses for Master Gardeners State wide for the newsletter distribution. If you have not sent in your roster, please forward this email to your respective groups and encourage your membership to sign up!

You can still send your rosters to [tmga.news@gmail.com](mailto:tmga.news@gmail.com) at any time.

Thanks! Donna Hagar, TMGA Newsletter Editor

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## *Special Events & Opportunities*

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### **October 3 & 4, 2009 -Parker County Master Gardeners-Clark Garden Fall Festival**

Clark Garden Fall Festival will feature: 5 K run/walk & half marathon, Pumpkin golf, painting and other activities. (Admission to Garden). For further information on any of the following, please contact a Master Gardener at the Extension Office, 817-598-6168. [http://www.clarkgardens.com/fall\\_festival.htm](http://www.clarkgardens.com/fall_festival.htm)

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### **October 10 and 11, 2009 - The Greater North Texas Orchid Society - ORCHID SHOW & SALE**

#### **ORCHIDS IN THE BIG D**

Beautiful orchid exhibits and orchids for sale from 5+ commercial grower/vendors.

Open to the public, free admission

October 10, Saturday, 9 AM to 6 PM

October 11, Sunday, 10 AM to 4 PM

Hosted at North Haven Gardens

7700 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX 75230

for more info: [www.gntos.org](http://www.gntos.org)

Publicity Chairperson, Nancy Cropp, weekdays 214-540-1506, evenings 214-328-2684




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### **October 10, 2009 - Lampasas Chamber of Commerce - 2009 Herb and Art Festival**



The festival will be held on Saturday October 10, 2009

from 9 am to 5 pm at the Historic Downtown Square in Lampasas, TX.

The festival is a day long gala that focuses on the arts, gardening and related activities. There will be arts and crafts booths, guest speakers, educational seminars, children's activities and food. Vendor spaces are available for 50.00 for a 10 x 10 and 80.00 per 10 x 10 for food vendors.

For more information on activities and speakers check web site: Lampasas chamber of commerce <http://www.lampasaschamber.org/>, or phone nr 512-556-5172 or Toll free 866-556-5172 [For more Information](#)

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### ***“Living in the Country” Seminar***

**Friday, October 16, 2009**

**Somervell County Expo Center**

Cost for workshop is \$15 - includes lunch and refreshments

**RSVP Deadline: October 13, 2009 (\$25 late fee)**

Workshop topics include Rainwater Harvesting, Ag Exemptions, Landowner Liability, Pond Management and Construction, Fencing.

Make Checks Payable to: Somervell Extension Program Council PO Box 895. Glen Rose, TX 76043

Confirm your attendance by contacting any of the Extension Offices listed below no later than October, 13, 2009. For any other information concerning the workshop contact one of the Extension Agents below.

Josh Blaneck-CEA, Somervell, (254) 897-2809

Marty Vahlenkamp-CEA, Hood, (817) 579-3280

David Winkler-CEA, Bosque, (254) 435-6231

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## Special Events & Opportunities Continued



**The City of  
Farmers  
Branch &  
Chambersville  
Tree Farms**

**CELEBRATES ROSES AT  
ROSEDANGO 2009  
October 17 and 18**

The RoseDango celebration provides rosarians and rose enthusiasts the opportunity to exchange information and see firsthand the rose gardens in Farmers Branch and Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden. The weekend will kick-off Saturday with presentations at the McKinney Performing Arts Theater, followed by tours of the Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden. On Sunday the event will move south to Farmers Branch and will feature garden tours, a rose pruning clinic by Mike Shoup and much more. The event concludes with the Dallas Rose Society's Fall Rose Show at the Farmers Branch Senior Center. The show will be open to the public from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity for Master Gardeners to see what is thought to be the largest environmental horticulture

research in the country. The National Earth-Kind Trial Rose Garden in Farmers Branch is the only garden to evaluate all 100 cultivars under consideration for future Earth-Kind designation on a national level. Under the direction of Dr. Steven George this project has included many volunteer hours including those of Master Gardeners. Also include in the Farmers Branch tour is an Earth-Kind demonstration garden that exhibits the use of perennials and annals with the roses. The Chambersville Heritage Rose garden is a study garden of the Heritage Rose Foundation and has been designated by the Heritage Rose Committee of the World Federation of Rose Societies as an important world collection of historical roses. The garden features over 300 different varieties of rare and unusual China, Tea, Noisette and Hybrid Musk roses growing in a natural meadow setting utilizing the Earth-Kind method of growing. Visit <http://www.rosedango.com> for more information Visit [www.rosedango.com](http://www.rosedango.com) for more information Contact: Pam Smith - 972.919.2625 - [pam.smith@farmersbranch.info](mailto:pam.smith@farmersbranch.info) Carol Edwards - 214.250.3023 - [events@chambersvilletreefarms.com](mailto:events@chambersvilletreefarms.com)

### TEEA News Release

Now Accepting Applications for the 2010 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards.

The Texas Environmental Excellence Awards, presented annually by the governor's office and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, mark the highest distinction of environmental honor in the state. The awards recognize outstanding contributions in 11 diverse categories. The public may nominate an individual, community, company, or organization for an award.

We are asking for your assistance in promoting the awards to your community. We have created a ready-to-use Web banner ad to place on your Web site. Please go to <http://www.teea.org/apply/icons/apply.html> and follow the easy, step-by-step instructions. Once it's added to your site, viewers can easily click directly to the online application and ensure recognition of successful environmental efforts in your community.

Deadline to submit: October 16, 2009. Enter today at [www.teea.org](http://www.teea.org).

### *The Masters of Gardening* - Dallas Arboretum.

Be our guest. Saturday, **November 7, 2009** 9 am- 5 pm  
214-515-6540 or [education@dallasarboretum.org](mailto:education@dallasarboretum.org)

For more information, visit <http://www.dallasarboretum.org/Learn/MasterGardeners.htm>



**The Texas Organic Farmers & Gardeners** will hold its annual conference: "Texas Conference on Organic Crop Production"

**January 28 thru 30, 2010**, at the Embassy Suites, San Marcos, TX.

Speakers and events will be posted to the Web site, ([TOFGA.org](http://TOFGA.org)) as soon as they are finalized.

Submitted by Walter Daude

## *Special Events & Opportunities Continued*



### ***EARTH-KIND<sup>®</sup> ROSE SYMPOSIUM*** ***Presented by Texas AgriLife Extension and*** ***Victoria County Master Gardeners*** ***Saturday, October 17, 2009***



Love to garden, but a too-busy lifestyle got you ready to "throw in the trowel"? Come to Victoria on October 17 to the Earth-Kind Rose Symposium to hear how you can still successfully grow beautiful roses and other plants without spending a lot of time and effort and while still remaining environmentally responsible.

<http://www.vcmga.org/2009EarthKindSymposiumInfo.html>

Victoria County Master Gardeners Association (VCMGA) and Texas AgriLife Service, Victoria County, invite you to this all-day event to be held in the Victoria County 4-H Activity Center located across from the control tower at Victoria Regional Airport just east of Victoria on Business Highway 59. Registration begins 8 a.m. with the program beginning at 9 a.m.

Dr. Steve George, Landscape Horticulture Specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension, Dallas; Gaye Hammond, past president of the Houston Rose Society; Steve Chaney, Horticulture Agent for Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Fort Worth; and Dr. Shari Koch, Horticulture Agent for Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Rosenberg have teamed up to provide a full slate of sessions to aid today's time-strapped gardener.



Morning topics include an "Earth-Kind Overview", "Earth-Kind Roses: The Ultimate in Beautiful, Low-Maintenance Roses", "Improving Existing Soils Through Earth-Kind Environmental Soil Management", and "The Ever-Expanding Horizons for Earth-Kind"

During the afternoon, the attendees will be divided into four groups to attend 35-minute-long concurrent sessions which include an "Earth-Kind Bed Preparation Demonstration", "Introducing Children to the Joy of Growing Roses", "Creating an Earth-Kind Rose Garden in Your Own Backyard" and "Companion Plants for Earth-Kind Roses." Each attendee will have the opportunity to attend each of these sessions.

In addition to admittance to all of the sessions, the \$65 registration fee includes, an Earth-Kind Handbook, a 2 gallon experimental rose, a box lunch, morning and afternoon snacks, and a tour of the VCMGA Earth-Kind Research Study garden located in VCMGA's Award-Winning Victoria Educational Gardens (VEG). Attendees are also eligible for 6 CEU's Master Gardeners credit and 3 CEU's for Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide credit.



The registration fee should be mailed to Victoria County Master Gardeners Association, P.O. Box 1723, Victoria, Texas 77902, and must be received by October 1. Seating is limited, so mail your registration today. (Should seats remain after the Oct. 1 deadline, a late registration fees of \$75 per person will be accepted in the order they are received until seating is full or until Oct. 9, the final deadline.) Registration forms can be downloaded from the VCMGA's web site at [www.vcmga.org](http://www.vcmga.org)

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## *County Upcoming Events*

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To preserve space in the newsletter, below is a list of MG events throughout Texas. If you'd like more information, please visit the TMGA Website: [October County Events](#) –

- October 3, 2009 - Kaufman County Master Gardeners- Earthkind Roses and Rainwater Harvesting Basics
- October 5, 2009 - Kaufman County Master Gardener Meeting
- October 6, 2009 - Somervell County Master Gardeners “Herb Gardening Program”
- October 6, 2009 - Hamilton County Master Gardeners Free Rainwater Harvesting Seminar
- October 8, 2009 - The Fort Bend Master Gardeners - Green Thumb Seminar: Soil and Composting
- October 10, 2009 - Travis County Master Gardeners- For the Love of Trees
- October 11, 2009 - Tarrant County Master Gardeners - Open Days Garden Tours
- October 12, 2009 - Somervell County Master Gardeners, Community Horticulture Education Program “All About Bees”
- October 13, 2009 - Guadalupe County (Schertz/Seguin) Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas- Meeting with Bill Lindemann
- October 13, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardener Association - Green Thumb Gardening Series - Trees
- October 15, 2009 - Fort Bend Master Gardeners - Exploring the Katy Coastal Prairie
- October 16- Travis County Master Gardeners -How to Install One Type of Drip Irrigation System
- October 17, 2009 - Smith County Master Gardeners- Annual Fall Gardening Conference and Bulb Expo
- October 18, 2009 - McLennan County Master Gardeners and the Carleen Bright Arboretum - Waco Children's Garden Fair 2009
- October 19, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 - Open Garden Day
- October 20, 2009 - Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardeners - “Creating a Pocket Prairie Garden”
- October 21, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardener Association - Master Gardener Lecture Series “Backyard Birding”
- October 24, 2009 - Parker County Master Gardeners-Neil Collins' Memorial Rose Garden
- October 24, 2009 - Travis County Master Gardeners Certified Wildlife Habitat Garden Tours
- October 30, 2009 - Travis County Master Gardeners- Demonstration Garden at Travis County AgriLife Extension Office
- October 31, 2009 - Parker County Master Gardeners-Clark Garden BOOtanical Park - Clark Garden Old Fashioned Holiday Festival

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### **Special Horticulture Tour at the Houston Zoo**

Saturday, October 10, 2009 - Guided Tour - Join Joe Williams, Manager of Horticulture at the Houston Zoo, as he leads an intimate stroll across Zoo grounds, highlighting the many species of plant life flourishing in our 55 acres and outlining details, history and maintenance requirements of the Zoo's variety of flora.

[www.houstonzoo.org/horticulturetour](http://www.houstonzoo.org/horticulturetour)

## News from Around the State

### Lake Granbury Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Phil Oltmann & new Master Gardener Intern Janice Becker observe the progress made on the new Children's Garden portion of the Lake Granbury Master Gardener's Demonstration Garden, scheduled for completion in the spring of '10.

*Submitted by Nancy Hancock*



### Somervell County Master Gardeners New Garden Project at Heritage Park by Sandi Stringer,



Bob Lancaster addresses the Somervell County Commissioners Court regarding EarthKind® Roses

At the Sept. monthly meeting, the SCMGA voted to approach the County Commissioners Court and get permission to plant approximately 24 EarthKind® Roses along the new fence located on the eastern edge of Heritage Park. The expectation is that these roses will provide beauty and color for the area and additionally will eliminate the necessity of weed eating and mowing around the fence.

Bob Lancaster gave a brief presentation to the Commissioner's Court explaining that EarthKind® Roses have been thoroughly tested and require minimal watering and minimal or no use of fertilizers and chemicals. The Master Gardeners will purchase and plant the roses but Lancaster asked that the County assist in

spraying the existing Bermuda grass and help with the work day set aside for planting the roses. A good layer of bark mulch will be used and reapplied periodically. Although there is no water in the immediate area, watering can be done with hoses until other arrangements are made. Lancaster expressed a desire on our part to start this project as soon as possible and have it finished prior to the first frost of the season.

After the first year, the roses should be established and require little care from the Master Gardeners and at the end of year two they should be at mature height and performance.

The project was approved by all Commissioners in attendance.



Members of the Somervell County Master Gardeners await the Commissioners Court meeting. Pictured: Bob Lancaster, Donna Hagar, Barb Lancaster and Bonnah Boyd (back).

### Wichita County Master Gardener's Association

The Wichita County Master Gardener's Association presented their Falls Vegetable Gardening Seminar on Thursday August 20th, with 95 people in attendance. Led by Vegetable Gardening Specialist Beth Turlington, the topics covered included site selection and prep. Using the recommended varieties for our area and planting times. Insect and disease prevention and the finer points of mulching and composting. Attendees were provided handouts with the infor-

mation covered during the presentation. All in all it was a great success and the WCMGA is in the planning stages for a Spring Vegetable Seminar.

